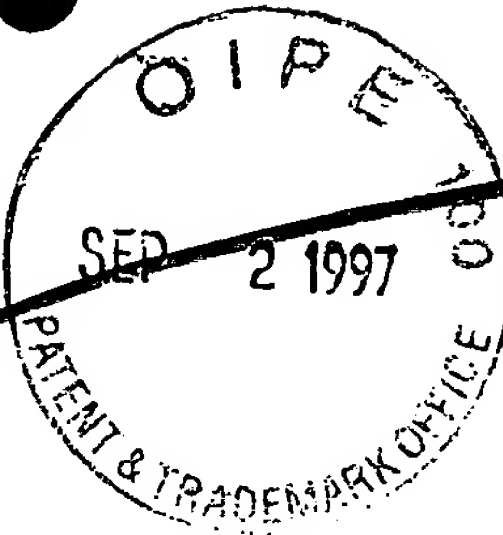


9/30/97



Box AF
Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Expedited Procedure Examining
Group 1505

SEP 04 1997

GROUP 1500

PATENT
649-487P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Yasuyuki TANAKA et al.

Serial No.: 08/448,990

Group No.: 1505

Filed: May 24, 1995

Examiner: F. Zitomer

For: MODIFIED NATURAL RUBBER

#9/C
NE
AC
9-5-97
13/E

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

The Honorable Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

September 2, 1997
(Tuesday, following a
Federal Holiday)

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Final Office Action dated May 30, 1997, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 4 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend the following claim:

Claim 1 (Twice Amended). A modified natural rubber obtained by a modification of a deproteinized natural rubber having a nitrogen content of less than 0.10% by weight; wherein said modification is carried out by graft copolymerizing said deproteinized natural rubber with an organic compound having an

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